

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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SUBJECT VIOLENCE RELATED PHOTOS FROM THE US

SUMMARY: RECENT ARGENTINE MEDIA PLAY OF VIOLENCE RELATED
PHOTOS FROM THE US INDICATES DEPTH OF BITTER ARGENTINE
REACTION TO YACYRETA LOAN BLOCKAGE AND DERIAN
CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY. TV COMMENT ESPECIALLY BITTER.

1. MEDIA PLAY GIVEN OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS TO
VIOLENCE RELATED PHOTOS FROM THE UNITED STATES ARE
SYMPTOMATIC OF THE STRONGLY UNHAPPY REACTION OF
ARGENTINE OVER STATE DEPARTMENT BLOCKAGE OF THE
YACYRETA LOAN AND DERIAN CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY.

2. WIDE PLAY HAS BEEN GIVEN IN THE PRESS AND ON
TV TO THE PHOTO OF KU KLUX KLAN MEMBERS IN
DECATUR, ALABAMA. NUMBER 1 CIRCULATION CLARIN
FRONT PAGES THIS PHOTO, AS DID LARGE CIRCULATION
LA RAZON, WHICH ADDED FOUR OTHER PHOTOS IN A MONTAGE
DESIGNED TO HIGHLIGHT VIOLENCE IN THE UNITED STATES.
OTHER PHOTOS IN LA RAZON SHOWED A SEABROOK
DEMONSTRATOR BEING ARRESTED, US NAZIS, MEMPHIS
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POLICE STRIKE, AND PRESIDENT CARTER JUMPING A
FENCE IN COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, WITH CAPTION:
"JIMMY CARTER SPOKE IN COLUMBIA BEFORE AN AUDIENCE
OF FARMERS OF THE MID WEST, AND WHEN HE FINISHED,
CLOSELY GUARDED, DEPARTED BY JUMPING A RAILING."
THE KLAN PHOTO CAPTION SAID KLANSMEN, WERE STOPPING
MOTORISTS WHO, IN VIEW OF THE ARMS BRANDISHED BY

THE KLANSMEN, FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO DENY THEM A DONATION.

3. A TV COMMENTATOR ON GOVERNMENT OWNED CHANNEL 7 AUGUST 15 MADE MUCH OF THE KLAN PHOTO AND ENDED BY ASKING WHAT PATRICIA DERIAN'S REACTION WAS. THE RECENT CLASH BETWEEN POLICE AND BLACKS IN PHILADELPHIA ALSO HAS RECEIVED, AS HAS THE MEMPHIS POLICE STRIKE, SIGNIFICANT PLAY. PRENSA CARRIED A PHOTO FROM PHILADELPHIA WITH CAPTION SAYING A PLICEMAN WAS "KICKING AN UNARMED PRISONER LYING ON THE FLOOR." LA RAZON CARRIED SAME PHOTO WITH CAPTION "HUMAN RIGHTS. THEY DO IT IN THE US, TOO."

4. TELEVISION COMMENTS AGAINST ASSISTANT SECRETARY DERIAN HAVE BEEN MORE BITTER THAN COMMENTS IN THE OTHER MEDIA. A CHANNEL 7 COMMENTATOR ACCUSED HER OF BEING A CLOSE FRIEND OF THE LEFT, SAYING "TELL ME WHO YOUR FRIENDS ARE AND I'LL TELL YOU WHO YOU ARE." ON CHANNEL 11, BERNARDO NEUSTADT, WHO HAS ATTACKED HER MANY TIMES, SAID "PATRICIA DERIAN DOES NOT LIKE US AT ALL."

5. AS REPORTED IN MEDIA REACTION REPORTS, PRESS UNCLASSIFIED

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CRITICISM, RE YACYRETA AND DERIAN TESTIMONY, WHILE ATTACKING US HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY DERIAN, GENERALLY NOTED THE NEED FOR GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE US, AND, IN SOME COMMENT, THE NEED TO COME TO GRIPS WITH ARGENTINAS HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS. AS ALSO REPORTED, MAGAZINE COMMENT HAS BEEN USUALLY MORE HOSTIEL THAN NEWSPAPER COMMENT RE HUMAN RIGHTS.

6. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THERE MAY WELL BE A GOVERNMENT ROLE IN THE NEGATIVE TELEVISION REACTION TO THE YACYRETA LOAN BLOCKAGE, THE PRESS APPEARS TO BE REACTING SPONTANEOUSLY, REFLECTING OUTRAGED NATIONALISM. EACH OF THE FOUR BUENOS AIRES TV STATIONS IS DIRECTED BY A MILITARY INTERVENTOR, WHO KEEPS CLOSE WATCH ON NEWS PROGRAM CONTENT. CASTRO

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Draft Date: 16 aug 1978
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